

CLAIMS:

1. A speech dialogue system (1) comprising a speech understanding unit (4) in which, for identifying a meaningful word sub-sequence from a recognition result produced by a speech recognition unit (3) which result was determined for a word sequence fed to the speech dialogue system (1), the word sub-sequence is evaluated by means of different speech models (8).

2. A speech dialogue system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, a general speech model (LM-0) and at least one theme-specific speech model (LM-1, ..., LM-K) are provided for evaluating the word sub-sequence.

3. A speech dialogue system as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the plurality of different speech models (8) contains at least one theme-specific speech model (LM-1, ..., LM-K) to which a database (DB-1, ..., DB-M) with respective theme-specific data material is assigned, which material is used for determining the semantic information contained in the word sub-sequence.

4. A method of extracting a significant word sub-sequence from a recognition result produced by a speech recognition unit (3) of a speech dialogue system (1), in which the word sub-sequence is evaluated with different speech models (8) in a speech understanding unit (4) of the speech dialogue system (1).

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